

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-10

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R 231643Z MAY 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

USCINCSO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OAS

SUBJECT: COMMITTEE OF SEVEN MEETING

1. FOREIGN MINISTERS GALVEZ AND BORGONOVO MET TOGETHER WITH THE COMMITTEE OF SEVEN MAY 21. GALVEZ MADE A CONCRETE PROPOSAL THAT NEGOTIATIONS BE REOPENED BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES.

2. BORGONOVO SPOKE FIRST AND GAVE AN UPBEAT ACCOUNT OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS WHICH SHOW A REDUCTION OF TENSION. HE MENTIONED THE MEETINGS OF CENTRAL AMERICAN CHIEFS OF STATES IN SANTO TOMAS DE CASTILLA, GUATEMALA IN JANUARY AND IN JALAPA, NICARAGUA IN FEBRUARY. HE UNDERLINED THE AGREEMENT IN JALAPA CONCERNING NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN HONDURAS AND SALVADOR. HE CALLED ATTENTION TO AN INCREASED
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FLLOW OFF BOTH OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL CONTACTS BETWEEN THE

COUNTRIES.

3. BORGONOVO EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF GRADUAL PROGRESS IN RESOLVING THE DISPUTE. QTE EL SALVADOR ACCEPTS A BROAD, OVERALL (GLOBAL) NEGOTIATION AND IS ALWAYS DISPOSED TO CONVERT INTO REALITY THE PARTIAL AGREEMENTS WHICH MAY BE MADE. UNQTE

4. GALVEZ'S PROPOSAL WAS AS FOLLOWS:

A. DIRECT BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE RENEWED, BASED ON THE DRAFT AGREEMENT CIRCULATED BY THE COMMITTEE OF SEVEN IN JUNE OF LAST YEAR (STATE 137313).

B. NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD TAKE UP WHERE THEY LEFT OFF IN MEXICO IN DECEMBER 1973. THE COMMITTEE SHOULD REITERATE ITS APPEAL TO EL SALVADOR TO REVEAL ITS VIEWS ON THE BORDER BEFORE THE BEGINNING OF THE TALKS.

C. THE AGREEMENT SHOULD SPECIFY HOW THE SETTLEMENT EFFORTS SHOULD PROCEED IF THE NEGOTIATIONS DO NOT RESOLVE OUTSTANDING DIFFERENCES QTE IN AN OVERALL, SIMULTANEOUS AND DEFINITIVE WAY UNQTE. HONDURAS WOULD ACCEPT THE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION ON HOW TO PROCEED IN SUCH A CASE.

D. THERE SHOULD BE A SIXTY-DAY PERIOD BETWEEN THE SIGNING OF THE AGREEMENT AND THE BEGINNING OF NEGOTIATIONS TO ALLOW FOR INFORMAL TALKS.

5. IN RESPONSE TO BORGONOVO'S MENTION OF THE JALAPA AGREEMENT ON EFFORTS TO RENEW RELATIONS, GALVEZ SAID THIS WAS ONLY A STATEMENT OF POLITICAL WILL OF THE GOVERNMENTS AND IT SHOULD BE QTE FORMALIZED UNQTE BY NEGOTIATIONS. THOUGH HE WAS NOT SPECIFIC, HE PRESUMABLY HAS IN MIND RENEWAL OF RELATIONS IN THE CONTEXT OF THE QTE OVERALL UNQTE SOLUTION HONDURAS SEEKS.

6. THE COMMITTEE AGREED THAT THE DETAILS OF THE HONDURAN PROPOSAL WOULD NOT BE RELEASED TO THE PUBLIC, THOUGH CHAIRMAN SEVILLA SACASA WAS AUTHORIZED TO SUMMARIZE THE RESULTS OF THE MEETING TO THE PRESS.

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7. COMMENT: THE MEETING WAS VERY RELAXED AND BOTH MINISTERS SEEMED DISPOSED TO GET THE TALKS BACK ON THE TRACKS. THE COMMITTEE WAS PLEASED AT THE TONE OF THE HONDURAN PROPOSAL AND THE SALVADORAN REMARKS AND MADE CLEAR THAT THE BALL IS NOW IN EL SALVADOR'S COURT.

8. WE DO NOT PERCEIVE ANY RADICAL CHANGE IN POSITIONS, BUT

ARE HAPPY TO NOTE THE APPARENT DESIRE OF BOTH SIDES TO RE-
SUME EFFORTS TO RESOLVE THE ISSUES. KISSINGER

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